



Docket No.: M4065.0567/P567-A  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Paul J. Rudeck

Application No.: 10/626,620

Confirmation No.: 9373

Filed: July 25, 2003

Art Unit: 2813

For: METHOD TO REMOVE AN OXIDE SEAM  
ALONG GATE STACK EDGE, WHEN  
NITRIDE SPACER FORMATION BEGINS

Examiner: L. M. Schillinger

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.